

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claim 12; amend Claims 1, 6-8, 11, 13-15 and 17; and add new Claim 21 as follows.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) An adjustable shock absorber comprising:
 - a pressure tube defining a working chamber;
 - a piston rod extending through said pressure tube and into said working chamber;
 - a piston slidably disposed within said pressure tube and connected to said piston, said piston defining a plurality of compression fluid passages and a plurality of rebound fluid passages, said piston dividing said working chamber into an upper working chamber and a lower working chamber;
 - a compression valve attached to said piston, said compression valve allowing fluid flow from said lower working chamber to said upper working chamber when a first fluid pressure is exerted on said compression valve;
 - a rebound valve attached to said piston, said rebound valve allowing fluid flow from said upper working chamber to said lower working chamber when a second fluid pressure is exerted on said rebound valve, the second fluid pressure being greater than the first fluid pressure;
 - a valve assembly separate from said piston in communication with said upper and lower working chambers, said valve assembly including a first variable orifice in communication with said upper working chamber for controlling flow from said upper

working chamber and a second variable orifice in communication with said lower working chamber for controlling flow from said lower working chamber.

2. (original) The adjustable shock absorber according to Claim 1 wherein, said valve assembly includes a solenoid valve having means for controlling said first variable orifice.

3. (original) The adjustable shock absorber according to Claim 2 wherein, said means for controlling said first variable orifice includes a spool valve.

4. (original) The adjustable shock absorber according to Claim 2 wherein, said solenoid valve includes means for controlling said second variable orifice.

5. (original) The adjustable shock absorber according to Claim 4 wherein, said means for controlling said first and second orifices include a spool valve.

6. (currently amended) The adjustable shock absorber according to Claim 1 wherein, said valve assembly includes a first ~~variable blowoff~~ poppet valve in communication with said upper working chamber.

7. (currently amended) The adjustable shock absorber according to Claim 6 wherein, said ~~first variable blowoff~~ valve assembly includes a second poppet valve is in communication with said lower working chamber.

8. (currently amended) The adjustable shock absorber according to Claim 6 wherein, said shock absorber includes a reserve tube defining a reserve chamber, said first ~~variable blowoff valve~~ and second poppet valves being in communication with said reserve chamber.

9. (original) The adjustable shock absorber according to Claim 6 wherein, said valve assembly includes a solenoid valve having means for controlling said first variable orifice.

10. (original) The adjustable shock absorber according to Claim 9 wherein, said means for controlling said first variable orifice includes a spool valve.

11. (currently amended) The adjustable shock absorber according to Claim 9 wherein, ~~said solenoid valve includes means for controlling said second variable orifice~~ 8 further comprising a base valve assembly disposed between said lower working chamber and said reserve chamber, said base valve assembly controlling fluid flow from said reserve chamber to said lower working chamber, said base valve assembly prohibiting all fluid flow from said lower working chamber to said reserve chamber.

12. (canceled)

13. (currently amended) The adjustable shock absorber according to Claim [[12]] 21 wherein, said first ~~variable blowoff~~ poppet valve is in communication with said lower working chamber and said ~~second~~ blowoff valve is in communication with said upper working chamber.

14. (currently amended) The adjustable shock absorber according to Claim [[12]] 21 wherein, said shock absorber includes a reserve tube defining a reserve chamber, said first and ~~second blowoff valves~~ poppet valve being in communication with said reserve chamber.

15. (currently amended) The adjustable shock absorber according to Claim [[12]] 21 wherein, said valve assembly includes a solenoid valve having means for controlling said first variable orifice.

16. (original) The adjustable shock absorber according to Claim 15 wherein, said means for controlling said first variable orifice includes a spool valve.

17. (currently amended) The adjustable shock absorber according to Claim ~~16~~ wherein, ~~said solenoid valve includes means for controlling said second variable orifice~~ 14 wherein, a base valve assembly disposed between said lower working chamber and said reserve chamber, said base valve assembly controlling fluid flow from said reserve chamber to said lower working chamber, said base valve assembly prohibiting all fluid flow from said lower working chamber to said reserve chamber.

18. (original) The adjustable shock absorber according to Claim 1 wherein, said first variable orifice is in communication with said lower working chamber.

19. (original) The adjustable shock absorber according to Claim 18 wherein, said second variable orifice is in communication with said upper working chamber.

20. (original) The adjustable shock absorber according to Claim 1 wherein, said shock absorber includes a reserve tube defining a reserve chamber, said first and second variable orifices being in communication with said reserve chamber.

21. (new) The adjustable shock absorber according to Claim 6 wherein, said rebound valve is a blowoff valve.